

TESTIMONY IN SUPORT OF LEGISLATIVE ACTION TO FACILITATE IRMA OPERATIONS

5442

TESTIMONY BEFORE  
THE INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE COMMITTEE  
OF THE CONNECTICUT GENERAL ASSEMBLY

HB – 5442

My name is Barbara Gilbert. I am the Town Manager of Rocky Hill and a member of the MIRMA Board of Directors since 2004 and I am currently MIRMA's Treasurer.

Rocky Hill joined MIRMA in 2003 realizing that there was the need to get better claims and risk control services than we were receiving from our incumbent workers compensation carrier. MIRMA has lived up to all of its selling points including a competitive quotation.

FROM HERE BARBARA JUST HIGHLIGHT THE POSITIVE THINGS THAT YOU AND YOUR STAFF HAVE SEEN. ITEMS SUCH AS:

- PROFESSIONAL CLAIMS HANDLING WITH STAFF WHO KNOWS MUNICIPALITIES
- CREATIVE AND HANDS ON LOSS CONTROL STAFF
- MEANINGFULL LOSS MANAGEMENT REPORTS
- WILLINGNESS TO PARTICIAPTE IN SAFETY COMMITTEE
- RESPONSIVENESS TO THE ROCKY HILL STAFF and INJURED WORKERS

Based on our conversations you have a war stories that you can add to one or two of the items above. It is much better in your words rather than having me try to script something for you.

In closing, it is important to Connecticut Municipalities and Local Public Agencies that there is more than one IRMA operating in the State. In order for an IRMA to be a success immediately it needs the same jump start that was given to the original IRMA. It would be a wonderful if the State could provide all IRMA's with a 15 year, interest free \$8.6 million dollar nest egg to protect it from any adversity. Unfortunately, with today's financial situation, we all know that this is not reality. However, allowing an IRMA to operate for its first 15 years of its existence without meeting the contingency reserve requirements immediately is a reality. HB-5442 is intended to do just that and this is why I am speaking in favor of this legislation.